

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SAM-01 L-02 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01

DRC-01 /064 W

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R 220820Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2603

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1250

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652/: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REQUESTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

REF: 2 FAM 227, 228

1. IN PAST WEEKS SOME OF KIM TAE CHUNG'S ASSOCIATES HAVE SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY THAT KIM MIGHT REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM AT EMBASSY. WE HAVE NO INDICATION AS TO WHAT KIM HIMSELF HAS IN MIND. HOWEVER, AS WE APPROACH THE OPENING OF UNIVERSITIES IN MARCH, THERE DOES EXIST POSSIBILITY THAT KIM OR OTHER POLITICAL FIGURES MIGHT APPROACH EMBASSY RE POLITICAL ASYLUM, PARTICULARLY IN EVENT THERE ARE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

OR MORE EXTENDED GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN ON ITS OPPONENTS.

2. IN EVENT EMBASSY IS APPROACHED BY ANY MAJOR FIGURE REQUESTING POLITICAL ASYLUM, WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING APPROACH IN CONSONANCE WITH GENERAL DEPARTMENT

A. PERSON MAKING REQUEST WILL BE TREATED COURTEOUSLY AND APPROPRIATE EMBOFF WILL EXPLAIN THAT USG DOES NOT AS MATTER OF POLICY GRANT
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POLITICAL ASYLUM ABROAD.

B. AT SAME TIME EMBASSY WILL SEND
IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM TO DEPARTMENT DESCRIBING
APPROACH AND CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED. UNLESS THERE
COMPELLING REASONS (SEE BELOW) WE WILL NOT KEEP
PERSON IN EMBASSY UNTIL DEPARTMENT'S REPLY
RECEIVED.

C. IF APPROACH TO EMBASSY IS UNPUBLICIZED
AND UNNOTICED, EMBASSY WILL TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION
OTHER THAN REFUSAL OF POLITICAL ASYLUM.

D. IN MORE LIKELY EVENT THAT REQUEST IS
PUBLICIZED OR COMES TO THE ATTENTION OF ROKG, EMBASSY
WILL INFORM ROKG THAT IT IS NOT OUR POLICY TO GRANT POLITICAL
ASYLUM AND AT SAME TIME SEEK AGREEMENT THAT NO
ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THE PERSON
APPROACHING EMBASSY BECAUSE OF HIS REQUEST. WE WOULD,
IF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE, ALLOW REQUESTOR TO REMAIN IN EMBASSY UNTIL
THIS RESOLVED OR ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED
FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

3. IF APPLICABLE, EMBASSY WOULD OF COURSE FOLLOW
STANDING INSTRUCTIONS RE TEMPORARY REFUGE (2 FAM 228.3).

4. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS AND/OR APPROVAL OF THE ABOVE
APPROACH REQUESTED.
HABIB

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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